



PRESS RELEASE

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JULY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA – Commercial red meat production during July 2005 totaled 200,000 pounds. This was down 11 percent from July 2004 and down 15 percent from June 2005 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 313,000 pounds live weight, down 5 percent from July 2004. Cattle slaughter totaled 300 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,091 pounds, was up 41 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 109,000 pounds live weight, down 11 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 232 pounds, was up 4 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

UNITED STATES -- Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in July, down 2 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in July 2004.

Beef production, at 2.08 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 2 percent from July 2004. The average live weight was up 15 pounds from the previous year, at 1,254 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.4 million pounds, 7 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,600 head, down 15 percent from July 2004. The average live weight was 26 pounds above last year, at 350 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.51 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.66 million head, 5 percent below July 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 264 pounds

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.5 million pounds, was down 5 percent from July 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 200,800 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, up 6 pounds from July a year ago

January to July 2005 commercial red meat production was 25.9 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2004. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 8 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

July 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

July 2005 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays

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